



PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
PATENT EXAMINING OPERATIONS**

Application Number: 10/758,823
Applicant: BRICE ET AL.
Filed: January 16, 2004
Art Unit: 3749
Examiner: Josiah C. Cocks
Docket No: 3647
Customer No. 22474

Charlotte, North Carolina
November 17, 2005

Mail Stop RCE
Honorable Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND RCE

Responsive to the Final Office Action of August 22, 2005 and Advisory Action of October 5, 2005, and the telephonic interview with the Examiner on August 25, 2005, kindly amend the above-identified application as follows. This amendment supersedes any previously presented amendments.

AMENDMENTS to the Specification begin on page 2

AMENDMENTS to the Claims begin on page 4.

REMARKS start on page 11.